



February 2026

THE Oil Can



Volume XX Issue 2



Division 7 Officers

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Secretary: **Chris Shackleton**
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Trustees

Bob Adams	(South)	859 384-0369
Merlyn Jarman	(West)	812 539-3232
John Burchnall	(North)	513 205-6045
Rick Crumrine		513 231-5328
Roy Hord		513 777-5337
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Randy Kerka		513 378-8108
John Shields	(East)	513 561-8691
Bob Shreve		513 473-4594
Pam Moleski		facebook@cincy-div7.org
Dave Puthoff		513 742-3227

Committee Chairs

Achieve. Prog.	Frank Koch	513-324-3781
Car Projects	Paul Maciulewicz	513 779-1686
Comm. Service	Larry Bonhaus	513 236-3447
Company Store	Paul Musselman	859 384-2472
Contests	Roy Allan	513-831-3943
Division 7 Booth	John Shields	513 561-8691
Excursions	John Burchnall	513 205-6045
	Merlyn Jarman	812 539-3232
Fall Show	Rick Crumrine	513 503-0528
Flea Market	Gary Ossenschmidt	513 682-6185
Layout Ops.	Rick Stern	513 729-1054
Membership	John Shields	513 561-8691
Modelers Aid	Bruce Knapp	513 941-2713
	Sam Parfitt	513 378-9133
Model Railroadng Roundtable	Sam Swanson	nwindes1980@gmail
Monthly Raffle	Russ Poynter	513 563-9370
Oil Can Editor	Dave Puthoff	513 742-3227
Publicity	Randy Kerka	513 378-8108
Social Media	Pam Moleski	facebook@cincy-div7.org
Video Library	David Wynne	513 708-4990
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Web Master	John Burchnall	513 205-6045

Mid Central Region Officers

Pres. **Jerry Doyle**
president@midcentral-region-nmra.org

V.Pres. **Frank Troccia**
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Secr. **Bruce DeMaeyer**
secretary@midcentral-region-nmra.org

Treas. **Barbara Soward**
treasurer@midcentral-region-nmra.org

The Editors Corner:

Dave Puthoff

The Division 7 Spring Flea Market & Trade Show will be held on March 15 at the Lakota West Freshman School. Details are on Page 24.

Volunteers are greatly needed to support the success of this annual Division 7 event. Signup sheets will be available at the next members meeting on February 1, or contact Gary Ossenschmidt.

Chris Shackleton's election as Assistant Superintendent resulted in a vacancy of the position of Division 7 Secretary. Consider volunteering for this important appointed position. Details are on Page 15.

Dave

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The Oil Can is a publication of Cincinnati Division 7, Mid Central Region, NMRA, Inc. Opinions expressed herein are the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of Division 7, the MCR, the NMRA, it's officers, or it's members.

Space permitting, The Oil Can welcomes news items, articles and letters on Model Railroadng and related topics. Deadline for submissions is generally the fifteenth of the month preceding the next meeting.

Cover: Scene from Keith Corman's HO-Scale layout

Photo by Dave Puthoff



As I start my new role as the Superintendent of this outstanding Division 7, I thought that I would reflect on my NMRA journey. Your personal journey may resemble mine or it may be totally different.

In my early years, I wasn't fortunate enough to get into trains the way many of you did with a layout in the basement or railfanning at an early age. It wasn't due to a lack of interest, only the funds and space to do it. So when my two sons were old enough and a neighbor started building a layout, I jumped at the chance to start one also. For a few years, I started to build a modest 4' x 8' layout in our downstairs. But my neighbor moved away leaving me without a train buddy to explore both the prototype and modeling world of trains. While I knew the NMRA existed, I never joined. We moved shortly after that and I no longer had a space for a layout. With my sons getting older, I got away from the hobby.

Fast forward a number of years and I retired with three grandsons who love trains. I had plenty of time on my hands and my finances were better than when I had two kids to raise. After starting a small layout that fit my still limited basement, I attended an October Train Show at Lakota West High School. The year was 2019 and, as luck would have it, I got into a conversation with a very eloquent member of the NMRA Division 7 named Chuck Endreola. We talked a bit and I asked him some advice on what type of glue/adhesive he recommended for working with styrene structure kits. Before long, Chuck gave me his card and invited me to come to one of the upcoming meetings. He gave me information on the NMRA Railpass membership and suggested I give it a try. I decided to see what it was like and my official membership enrollment date was 1/1/2020.

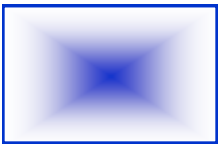
My first meeting was January 12, 2020 at the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Kenwood and Peter Weiglin was the clinician that day. I was a bit apprehensive since the only person I knew at all was Chuck from our brief contact at the Train Show. When the meeting started, I was called on to introduce myself as a new member the way we do at every meeting. One of the first people to talk to me at break that day was John Listerman who asked what I was modeling and he offered help with my backdrops if I needed it. I was quiet for much of the meeting and layouts afterwards. The same was true at the February meeting when Sam Swanson did the clinic. I had met a few people and was feeling a little more at home when Covid shut our activities down and we went to Zoom only meetings. Needless to say this wasn't the same but it still gave me the chance to put names and faces together. It also gave me a better feel for our division and members even if I couldn't have the face to face contact.

In July of 2020, Division 7 held it's first in-person event since Covid forced us into virtual meetings only. The event was a scaled down Flea Market at the Mt. Carmel American Legion Hall that we now use for meetings. This was a significant event for me because it was the first time I volunteered to help with a Division 7 event. Peter Weiglin said that I and others like me (young) were what the division needed and that I would get much out of it by being involved. In October that year, I was involved in all three days of the Fall Train Show and I was feeling more and more a part of the division. I learned people's names and I learned about Division 7's rich history and benefits. The rest is history as they say. As the leadership got to know me, they decided I might make a good Assistant Superintendent. Their invite to run for office caught me by surprise but I decided that I had something to offer the membership in return for all that I was getting from the division. Looking back, I know that I made the right decision.

Hope your journey has been equally rewarding. I look forward to helping you fulfill your modeling dreams.

Happy Modeling!

Tony



SECOND SECTION

Chris Shackleton
Asst. Super

I'm sure everyone will join me in thanking Chuck Endreola for his service as Superintendent as he concludes his term. I'd also like to thank Tony Valerius for his service as Assistant Superintendent and wish him luck stepping into the role of Superintendent. Chuck and Tony's strong leadership have put Division 7 in an excellent position.

I'd like to thank the division for electing me as our next Assistant Superintendent, and I look forward to continuing the great work Tony has done. We have an exciting 2026 planned, with never-before-seen layouts opening (including mine!) and brand-new clinics (also including mine!). 2027 will also be a landmark year for our division, as we will be hosting our convention, *The Cincinnati*.

If you are interested in hosting a layout visit, please do not hesitate to reach out to me. We love visiting new layouts in any stage of construction. Whether you are framing out your basement in preparation for your first pieces of benchwork or putting the finishing touches on your model railroad empire, we want to see it! Every layout has the potential to inspire someone who is planning or working on their own.

Our January 11th meeting was held at the Dunham Recreation Center in Westwood, Ohio. We had our annual potluck and enjoyed electronic slides shared by several members. The photo and model contests were "Box, Reefer, or Stock Car" and "Any Passenger Train Car." Our AV team for the meeting was Chris Boylan, Merlyn Jarman, and Joe Wendeln. After the meeting, we visited the home layout of Keith Corman.

Coming Up:

Sunday, February 1st: Our February meeting will be held at the Cincinnati North Holiday Inn, in West Chester, Ohio. Please note this is a week earlier than usual to avoid the Super Bowl. The model and photo contest will be "Caboose or any EOT device freight car." Special guest Bob Frankrone will share a presentation on "*Creating Operations on the Louisville Southern Lines*." Afterwards, we'll tour the layouts of Chris Shackleton (our first visit) and Sam Parfitt.

Saturday, March 7th: There will not be a regular March meeting, as we will be hosting our annual Spring Flea Market at Lakota West Freshman School. Volunteers are always welcome and needed with setup on the preceding Friday, as well as admissions, membership, and tear-down on Saturday.

Sunday, April 12th: Our April meeting will be held at the Mt. Carmel American Legion Hall. The model and photo contest will be "Hopper or Gondola car." I will be sharing my new clinic, "*Taking the Pain Out of Painting*." After the meeting, we will visit the layouts of Mike Strasinger and Chuck Behymer.

Chris

Division 7 MCR, NMRA
Dunham Recreation Center, Cincinnati, OH
January 11th, 2026
Meeting Minutes:

Welcome: Start time 2:00PM.

New Member: Sam Scoggins

Sick Call: Bruce Knapp, Georgia Dahlberg

Officer Reports:

Superintendent [Endreola]:

- Thank you for bearing with us after December's inclement weather, thank you to everyone who joined the December meeting Zoom call.
- As of meeting conclusion, Superintendent is Tony Valerius and Asst. Super. is Chris Shackleton.

Asst. Superintendent [Valerius]:

- Recognize A/V team for month: Chris Boylan, Merlyn Jarman, Joe Wendeln.
- Next meeting will be February 1st at the Cincinnati North Holiday Inn.
- Clinic will be "Creating Operations on the Louisville Southern Lines" by Bob Frankrone.
- The contest topic for both model and photo will be "Caboose or any EOT device freight car."
- Layout tours will be to the homes of Chris Shackleton and another to be determined.

Secretary [Shackleton]:

- Check Oil Can for meeting notes.

Treasurer [Koch]:

- We're in good shape.

Committee Reports:

Membership [Shields]:

- 217 members. Please check to make sure your membership is current.

New Business:

2026 Flea Market [Ossenschmidt, Hord]:

- Tables nearly sold out. Please sign up to volunteer.

Appreciation Award [Endreola]:

- Present Appreciation Award to Frank Koch for many years of excellent service to the division, NMRA, and the greater hobby. Thank you, Frank!

Announcements:

[Endreola]:

- It has been an honor serving the division as Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent. Thank you, Chuck!

Secretary Position [Valerius]:

- Secretary position is open, see Tony if interested.

Break: 30 minutes contest voting, purchase raffle tickets

Raffle: [Russ Poynter]

Clinic: Electronic Slides Potluck

Layout Visit: Keith Corman

Respectfully compiled and submitted by **Chris Shackleton, Secretary Division 7, MCR, NMRA**

LEADERSHIP CONTINUITY PLAN STATUS

<u>POSITION</u>	<u>Present Holder</u>	<u>Back Up(s)</u>
Treasurer	Frank Koch	John Shields
Bank Access	Frank Koch	Roy Hord
Achievement Program	Frank Koch	Roy Allan
Secretary	Chris Shackleton	Tony Valerius
Membership	John Shields	Mike Tener
Oil Can Editor	Dave Puthoff	David Wynne
Webmaster	John Burchnall	David Lamb
Regulations Editor	Frank Koch	John Burchnall
Raffle	Russ Poynter	Chuck Endreola
Publicity	Merlyn Jarman	Randy Kerka
Email Notices	Bob Shreve	open
Social Media Chair	Pam Moleski	Nancy Windes
Registrar	Roy Hord	Steve Brown
Fall Show Chair	Rick Crumrine	Gary Ossenschmidt
Spring Flea Market	Gary Ossenschmidt	Rick Crumrine
Table Sales/Floor Plan	Roy Hord	Steve Brown
Street Signs Distributor	John Burchnall	open
Contest Chair	Roy Allan	John Listermann
Car Projects	Paul Maciulewicz	open
Community Service	Larry Bonhaus	open
Company Store	Paul Musselman	open
Video Library	David Wynne	open
Modelers Aid	Bruce Knapp/Sam Parfitt	open
A/V Meeting Operators	- several -	open

If you are interested in volunteering to back-up any of these open positions, please contact Chuck Endreola or the "Present Holder" for a description of duties.

Both New, and Veteran members are encouraged to become active in Division operations. Participation is rewarding!

NMRA Membership Renewal Service

Division 7 offers a convenient way to renew your NMRA membership. As your renewal time approaches, you will receive multiple reminders that the time is approaching. You will first receive an electronic notice about 60 days before your expiration date, then a paper mailed copy about 30 days before, another electronic notice when your expiration date comes, and then a mailed reminder about 30 days after your expiration date if you have not taken action by that date. Be sure to check your spam folder for notices from NMRA and/or check your membership card to know when your membership expires.

If you want Division 7 to submit your renewal, simply bring the renewal form and payment (cash, check, or credit card) to Frank Koch at any meeting. He will then submit it on the following day directly to HQ and renew your membership for you.

This also works if you have a Rail Pass membership that is about to expire and you want to renew. Just follow the same process as described above. The added bonus is that if you convert your Rail Pass to a full membership, Division 7 will rebate your Rail Pass fee directly to you.

Frank Koch

Division 7 Video Library

For those of you interested in railroad history, I've just reviewed a set of videos that I found quite interesting. We have 3 copies of *The History of American Railroads*, a 2-volume set from Columbia River containing "The Years of Steam" and "The Era of Diesel." Both Videos have over 4 hours of footage, the former mostly in black & white and the later mostly in color.

For modeling, we have a series of individual "How-To" videos from Paul Scoles entitled *Advanced Techniques for Realistic Scenery*, *Realistic Scenery Vol 2* and *Running Trains: Anatomy of an Operating Session*.

These videos along with many others will be available for check out at upcoming meetings. Simply select a DVD from the racks located at the *Video Library* table, write down your name and the Inventory # from the DVD cover on the check-out sheet and enjoy a clinic, layout visit or a piece of history. When you're done, simply bring it back at a future meeting and drop it in the return basket.

Check out our entire inventory at our website under 'Modeler Tips & Service.' If you see something you want, email me at drwynne01@aol.com and I'll put a *Hold* on it and bring it to the next meeting .

David Wynne

Another good reason you should join Division 7's On-Line Discussion Group — Ed.

**What are you missing out on?
What are you waiting for?**

Join the Cincinnati Division 7 Groups.io discussion group/forum!

Here's some of the recent discussion topics that have been posted there:

- Public Safety Announcement: Fire Safety and our Layouts!
- Christmas Modular Train Display at Liberty Center (Mall)!
- Sanded Grout - has anyone used it?
- Layout benchwork (This one was an ad for FREE L-Girders)

For you to join, simply search on "groups io cincinnati nmra" and you will be taken to the front door. From there simply request membership and I will get notified. I will approve any Cincinnati Division 7 NMRA Member in good standing.

NOTE: All posts must be free of disrespectful, derogatory, and/or inflammatory language and/or false statements. Behavior here will be civil with constructive criticism being the standard.

Cincinnati Division 7 NMRA Groups.io Moderator
Paul Maciulewicz

Cincinnati Division 7's Model Railroading Roundtable for 2026



We've completed two full years of Division 7's Model Railroading Roundtable (MRR) program. Each of the 13 roundtables has allowed a small group of like-interested folks to gather in a local home or meeting place and learn a new skill related directly to our model railroading hobby.

Division folks have agreed to offer another slate of roundtables this year, mostly coupled to our monthly meeting clinic program. We'll offer roundtables roughly quarterly, with the following hosts and presenters scheduled.

2026 Timeframe	Host	Topic
First Quarter	Bob Lawson, Rick Kramer	Converting a Layout to Dead Rail (Power on Board)
April	Chris Shackleton	Painting Techniques
Third Quarter	Sam Swanson	Making Details from XPS Foam
Fourth Quarter	Ray Persing	Simple Kit Structure Construction and Finishing

Detailed descriptions for each of the MRRs will be published as their dates approach. And if you'd like to host a roundtable, please send me (nwindes1980@gmail.com) an email with your topic and preferred timeframe, and we'll schedule you accordingly.

Sam Swanson

Division 7 MRR Program Coordinator



**CINCINNATI DIVISION 7
MID CENTRAL REGION, NMRA
2026 CONTEST THEMES**



MONTH	MODELS	PHOTOGRAPHY
January	12/25: Box, Reefer, Stock Car 1/26: Passenger Train Car	12/25: Box, Reefer, Stock Car 1/26: Passenger Train Car
February	Caboose (any EOT device freight train car)	Caboose (any EOT device freight train car)
March	- No contest (Flea Market) -	- No contest (Flea Market) -
April	Hopper or Gondola Car (open or closed)	Hopper or Gondola Car (open or closed)
May	Steam Locomotive	Steam Locomotive
June	- No contest (Picnic) -	- No contest (Picnic) -
July	Non-Steam Locomotive	Non-Steam Locomotive
August	Box, Refrigerator or Stock Car	Box, Refrigerator or Stock Car
September	Open Load Freight Car	Dirt or Road Motor Propelled Vehicle
October	Tank or Flat Car (with or without load)	Tank or Flat Car (with or without load)
November	Maintenance-of-Way (MOW) Equipment	Maintenance-of-Way (MOW) Equipment
December	Building, Bridge, Diorama or Scene	Building, Bridge, Scene, Diorama, or RR'ers at Work

Contest Sub-Classes

MODEL (up to 3 total entries permitted): Kit-Built, Kit-Bashed or Scratch-Built

PHOTO (up to 3 total entries permitted): Model or Prototype

January 12, 2025



CINCINNATI DIVISION 7, MCR, NMRA "DECEMBER 2025" CONTEST (Conducted 1/11/26)



MODEL: BOX, STOCK OR REFRIGERATOR CAR

Kit-Built:	1st Place Tie:	Roy Allan	D&RGW Stock Car #5516
	1st Place Tie:	Lee Drake	Big Four Box Car #4
	3rd Place:	Chris Shackleton	Pennsylvania Railroad Box Car #85412
Kit-Bashed:	1st Place:	Steve Montgomery	Crazy Crystals Reefer #482
	2nd Place:	Chris Shackleton	Virginian & Ohio Box Car #3124
Scratch-Built:	1st Place:	Larry Goodridge	O Gauge Stock Car
	2nd Place:	Tom Brueggemann MMR®	DSP&P Railroad Reefer #605
Junior Div:	No entries this month		

PHOTOGRAPHY: BOX, STOCK OR REFRIGERATOR CAR

Prototype:	1st Place:	Michael Strasinger	B&O Box Car #385897
	2nd Place:	Ben Hallenbeck	Illinois Central Reefer #13715
	3rd Place:	John Burchnall	Ringling Brothers "Boxtainer" Car #RBBX 84803
Models:	1st Place:	John Burchnall	Union Refrigerator Transit Co. Reefer #1809
	2nd Place:	John Burchnall	NKP #16361 + Virginian & Ohio #3902 Box Cars
	3rd Place:	Roy Allan	Rio Grande Southern Stock Car #7302
Junior Div:	1st Place:	Ellington Jennings	Union Pacific Box Car

2025 FINAL STANDINGS (January through December)

MODELS

1st Ben Hallenbeck	28	Mike Strasinger	8	Leo Honebrink	2
2nd Tom Brueggemann MMR®	22	Steve Montgomery	8	Rick Kramer	2
3rd Roy Allan	14	Larry Goodridge	6	Justin Pedopo	2
Chris Shackleton	11	Lee Drake	6	Mike Reynolds	2
Will Gregory	9	Bob Frankrone (Div 8)	4	Jim Rollwage	2
Georgia Dahlberg MMR®	8	Chuck Endreola	3	Bob Rinker	1

PHOTOGRAPHY

1st John Burchnall	59	Mike Strasinger	10	Patrick Stanley	3
2nd Ben Hallenbeck	19	Bob Rinker	7	David Wynne	3
3rd Roy Allan	14	Christopher Glynn	5	John Listerman	2

COMBINED OVERALL POINTS

(with at least 3 points in both models and photography)

1st Ben Hallenbeck	47	Roy Allan	28	Mike Strasinger	18
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JUNIOR DIVISION PHOTOS

1st Shane Stephens	5	2nd Ellington Jennings	3
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JUNIOR DIVISION MODELS

No entries this year

JANUARY CONTEST TOPICS

MODELS: ANY PASSENGER TRAIN CAR

PHOTOGRAPHY: ANY PASSENGER TRAIN CAR

Roy Allan

Cincinnati Division 7 Contest Chair



CINCINNATI DIVISION 7, MCR, NMRA JANUARY 2026 CONTEST RESULTS



MODELS: ANY PASSENGER TRAIN CAR

Kit-Built:	1st Place:	Ben Hallenbeck	Union Central Pacific Postal
	2nd Place:	Larry Goodridge	Pennsylvania RR Combine
	3rd Place:	Ben Hallenbeck	Gorre & Daphetid Observation
Kit-Bashed:	1st Place:	Mike Strasinger	Baltimore & Ohio Baggage Car
	2nd Place:	Will Gregory	Chesapeake & Ohio Observation Car
Scratch-Built:	No entries this month		
Junior Div:	No entries this month		

PHOTOGRAPHY: ANY PASSENGER TRAIN CAR

Prototype:	1st Place:	John Burchnall	Ffestinoig & Welsh Ry "Glaslyn" Observation Car
	2nd Place:	Joe Stuber	Silver Streak Observation Car
	3rd Place Tie:	Joe Stuber	Grand Canyon Train
	3rd Place Tie:	Ben Hallenbeck	Pay Car
Models:	1st Place:	John Burchnall	Olive Grove Short Wood Observation Car #38
	2nd Place:	Ben Hallenbeck	GM Aerotrain
	3rd Place:	Roy Allan	D&RGW Postal #63
Junior Div:	1st Place:	Ellington Jennings	Observation Car
	2nd Place:	Tennor Jennings	Louisville & Nashville Diner

2026 STANDINGS THROUGH JANUARY

MODELS

Ben Hallenbeck	4	Will Gregory	2
Mike Strasinger	3	Larry Goodridge	2

PHOTOGRAPHY

John Burchnall	6	Joe Stuber	3
Ben Hallenbeck	3	Roy Allan	1

JUNIOR DIVISION PHOTOS	Ellington Jennings	3	Tennor Jennings	2
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JUNIOR DIVISION MODELS	No entries yet this year		
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FEBRUARY CONTEST TOPICS

MODELS: CABOOSE OR ANY EOT DEVICE FREIGHT CAR

PHOTOGRAPHY: CABOOSE OR ANY EOT FREIGHT CAR DEVICE

Roy Allan

Cincinnati Division 7 Contest Chair



DIVISION 7 - COMMITTEE REPORTS

January 2026



Superintendent (Tony Valerius): As a member in good standing of Division 7, you have the opportunity to attend BOD (Board of Directors) meetings. You may voice your opinion and/or introduce new ideas and suggestions. At this time, the BOD meets via Zoom. The meetings are held each quarter, and each has a different Zoom link. Contact Chris Shackleton, John Burchnall or me each time and we'll gladly email you the link. Hope to see you there.

Recruitment and Retention (John Shields): The "latest" information from National (as of January 5) shows our current count is 217.

We have no new members to welcome from December.

Thank you to the ten members who renewed in the last month.

Our Division adopted a special benefit to aid with recruitment a year or so ago. Railpass members (the 9 month trial membership in NMRA) who renew will be given a refund of their trial membership fee. We talk about this benefit at our membership booth at the Fall Show and Spring Flea Market. Basically, we make it a Free Trial for those who continue.

This month's ten renewals did not include any Railpass members renewing. But going forward I am going to highlight this data point. So in case we miss giving someone their refund they will be reminded to ask. [I did check, and the reason we had no Railpass renewals was that no Railpass memberships expired in that period!]

The Flea Market is coming up Saturday March 7. We had volunteer signup sheets at the January meeting. We are still looking for volunteers to work the Membership Booth this year. Sheets will be available again at the February meeting. Contact me with any questions. New members can give interested visitors a current perspective of why one might join, and their personal experience of how it has worked out.

John Shields
Qcngineers@aol.com
513-561-8691

MCR Report (John Shields), **National Report** (Frank Koch / Pam Moleski), **Achievement Program** (Frank Koch), **Monthly Raffle** (Russ Poynter), **Community Service** (Larry Bonhaus), **Modelers Aid** (Bruce Knapp / Sam Parfitt), **Fall Train Show** (Rick Crumrine), **Operations Activities** (Rick Stern), **Facebook Page** (Pam Moleski), **YouTube** (David Lamb): No report this month

Car Projects (Paul Maciulewicz): See the Car Project Announcement elsewhere in this Oil Can

Oil Can (Dave Puthoff): Submissions for the March Oil Can are due by February 17.

Spring Flea Market Gary Ossenschmidt / Roy Hord): See the Announcement elsewhere in this Oil Can

Web Site (John Burchnall): Updated officers, meetings, events, contest and 2027 convention pages, plus 2026 program table.

Video Library (David Wynne): The Video Library Index was resorted based on "Categories" and posted on the Div 7 website thinking that this might be a little more useful if someone is trying to locate a video on a particular topic. Also see information on Page 10.

DIVISION 7 - ANNOUNCEMENTS



Chuck Endreola presents Recognition Award to Frank Koch for his many years of contributions to the NMRA and Division 7.

Photos by John Burchnall



Frank Koch presents Association Volunteer Achievement Award to Roy Allan.

Div. 7 Secretary Position Is Open

With the elections now complete, Chris Shackleton will be vacating his spot as the Division 7 Secretary at the conclusion of the January meeting to become our new Assistant Superintendent. This means that the Board of Directors is seeking a replacement for this very important office. If you would like to lend your talents to fill that position in service to the Division, please contact Tony Valerius at tony.valerius@gmail.com by January 4, 2026.

DIVISION 7 – ANNOUNCEMENTS

Division 7 Car Project (Limited Availability!)

Virginian & Ohio 36' Wooden Boxcar

In 1923, the Miami Valley Railroad, a subsidiary of the Virginian & Ohio, ordered 50 boxcars from American Car and Foundry. These cars had an inside length of 36' 5", an inside height of 8' 4", an inside width of 8' 6", and a capacity of 2580 cubic feet. They featured Hutchinson steel roofs, 7/7 inverted rib steel ends, seven-foot wooden doors, Andrews trucks, and K-style air brakes. The cars were delivered with MVR reporting marks.

The V&O also ordered 34 of these cars, which were delivered in V&O livery and carried V&O reporting marks. Some of these cars were rebuilt at the West Carrollton shops in July 1940 in the buildup to World War II. The last of these cars continued in service until late 1952. V&O Tool Car No. 435 was rebuilt at West Carrollton in December 1946. It continued in service on the V&O into the late 1960s.

Manufactured in the USA by Accurail, these Limited-Edition HO Scale Car Kits were designed by W. Allen McClelland and produced with his permission by Cincinnati Division 7, Mid Central Region, NMRA, Inc.

Of the four different cars and road numbers originally made - only 1 version is still available but in very limited quantity!

Gray V&O MOW #435



Pricing is \$21.00 per car. Shipping (USPS) & handling is \$10.40 for one car, and \$18.40 for two or more cars via USPS. **Ohio residents, please add 7.8% sales tax on the total price of the kits and the shipping/handling fee.**

Prior to ordering, please email our Car Projects Chairperson first to confirm availability and postage amount. Then, when ordering, please send your email and phone information along with a check or money order in US dollars, payable to Cincinnati Division 7, MCR, NMRA, to:

**Cincinnati Division 7 Car Projects
c/o Paul Maciulewicz
9151 Congress Court
West Chester, Ohio 45069**

DIVISION 7 - ANNOUNCEMENTS

Great Northern Railway Operating Session on February 21 at 7 PM (Saturday)

NOTE: Contact Sam Parfitt prior to attending, in order to confirm the Operating Session. --- Ed.

GNRW ops is on the 3rd W/E Saturday.

Pizza at 6:30-7:00.

Please email if attending.

NEW POLICY:

Since there's not a lot to do outside our homes related to railroading, those who wish to have a 'one-on-one' or with own friends to operate the layout during the month, please email or call.

Being retired, I spend the bulk of my time in the basement so visitors are always welcomed. Thanks.

NEW PROJECTS:

Installed decoders in several more engines. A selection of 100 engines can now be done.

Mission Statement: Main theme of my railroad (besides modeling the Great Northern Railway): when building the railroad, I wanted to model mainline running with big time steam and 'scale like' trains of 25-45 cars on single track mainline with passing sidings.

USUAL STATS:

Time: 1938. All steam and electrics. The GN railway is a point to point railroad, 400' mainline with two 400-500 car yards at Seattle, Wash and St Paul, Minn, each having 20+ track turntables and one staging yard holding 300 cars. Minimum radius, 48" with #10 turnouts. Track all hand laid on individual wooden ties. 100% scenery.

Four track 12' ore dock.

For pictures see:

<http://ogrforum.ogaugerr.com/topic/great-northern-railway?page=1>

Video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tOb7SgZTLWA>

The Operating session is also listed in the NMRA MCR div 7 web site:

<https://cincy-div7.org/events.html>

Junk food and beverage will be available

Thanks

Sam Parfitt

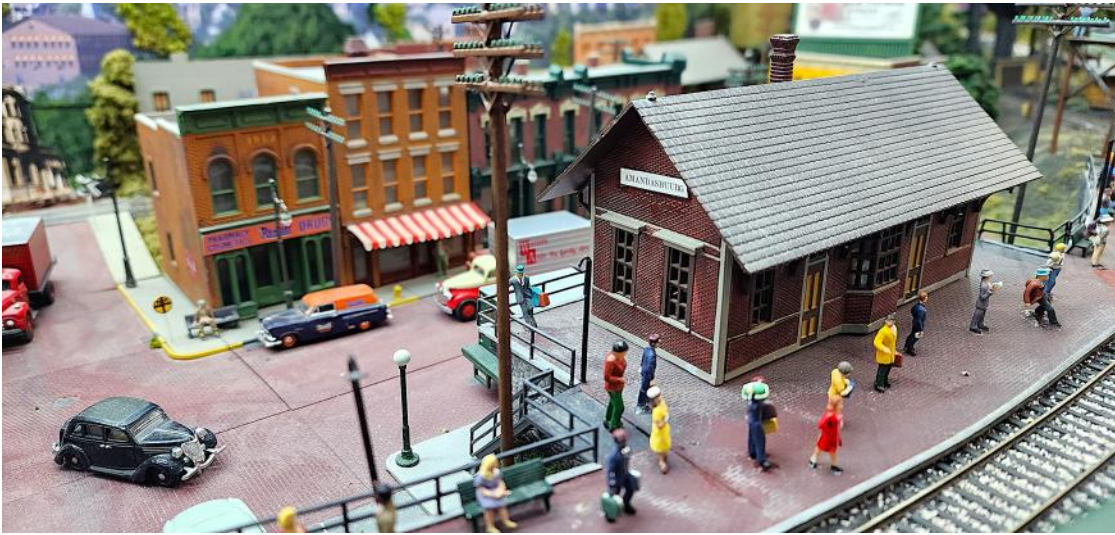
samparfitt@fuse.net

8795 Goldcrest Dr

West Chester OH, 45069

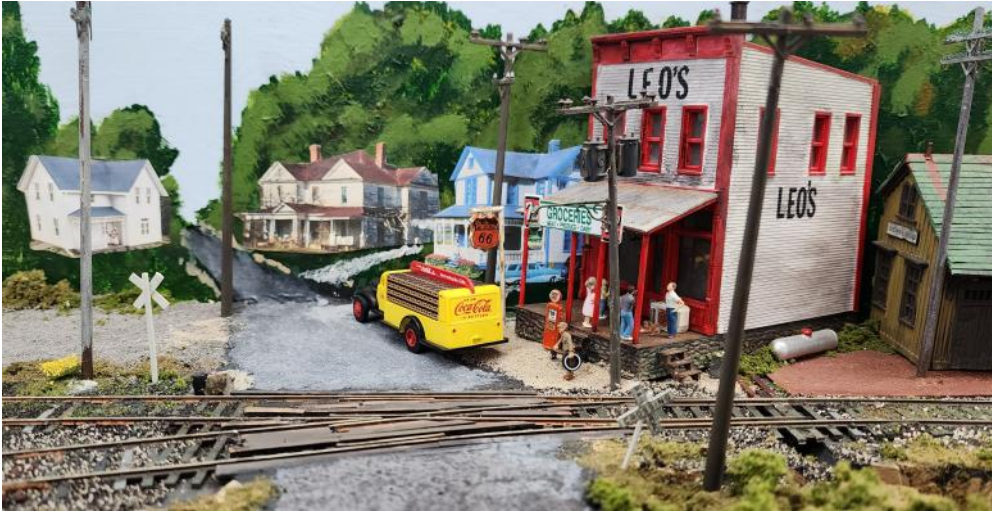
cell: 513-378-9133

LAYOUT VISIT - Keith Corman's HO-Scale Layout



Photos by John Burchnell

LAYOUT VISIT - Keith Corman's HO-Scale Layout



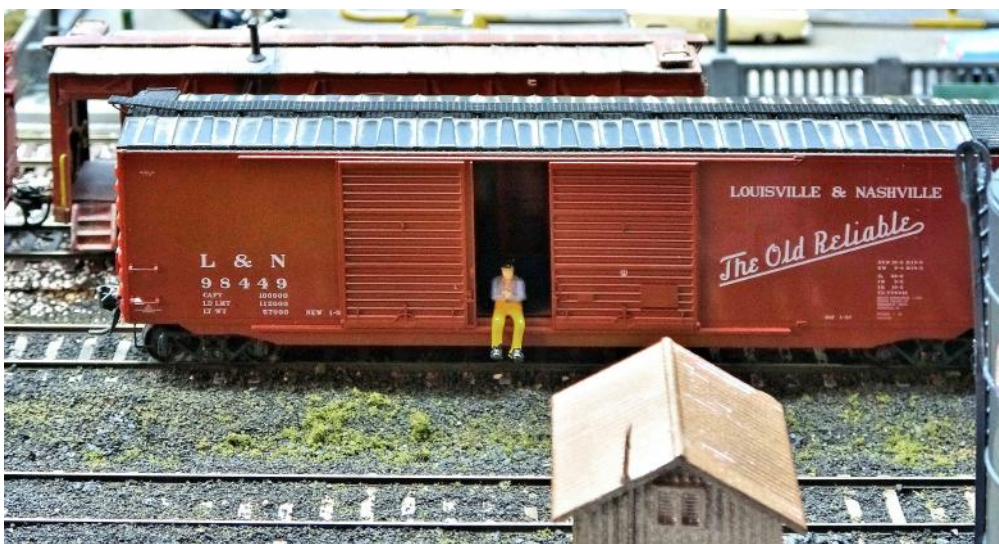
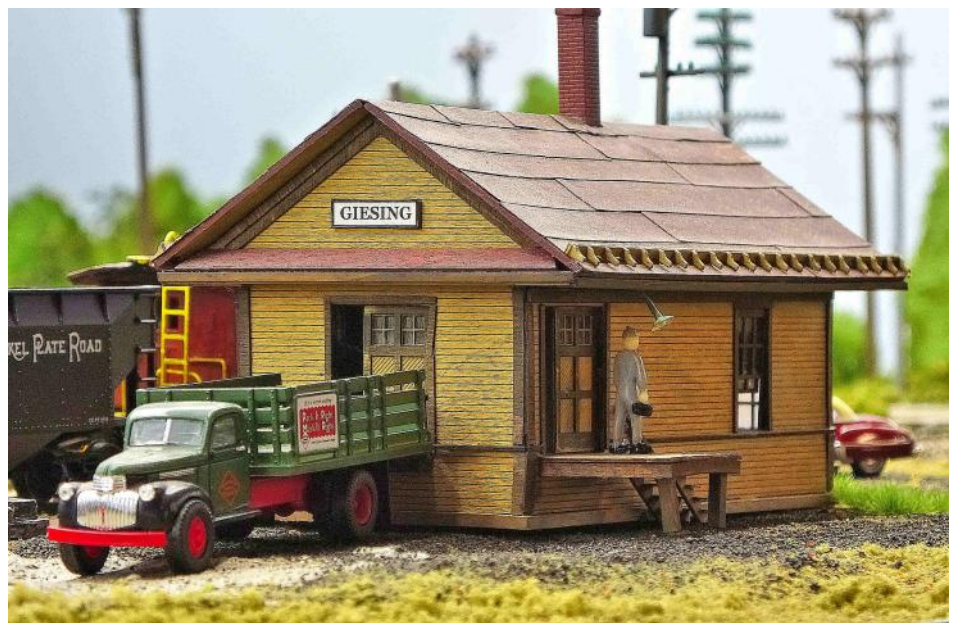
Photos by John Burchnall

LAYOUT VISIT - Keith Corman's HO-Scale Layout



Photos by Dave Puthoff

LAYOUT VISIT - Keith Corman's HO-Scale Layout



Photos by Richard Bierau

LAYOUT VISIT - Keith Corman's HO-Scale Layout



Photos by Richard Bierau

DIVISION 7 - CLASSIFIED ADS

As a benefit to Division 7 members, the Oil Can will offer to list free Classified Ads to allow members to sell railroad-related items. A few other Divisions offer such a program. The Board will periodically re-evaluate the program. If you have items to sell, please review the Rules, and send an email to editor@cincy-div7.org

CLASSIFIED AD RULES:

Item(s) must be railroad related.

Seller must be a Member of Division 7 MCR NMRA.

Listing description shall be 30 words or less.

Item(s) can be displayed for a maximum of three (3) months. Oil Can Editor will assign a Listing Number that will include the last month of listing. (E.g., "xx-July 2015" would indicate Listing xx will be listed through the July 2015 Oil Can).

Seller must list name, and either Phone Number and/or Email, so the interested Buyer can contact Seller. It will not be listed without them. **(NOTE: Seller agrees to allow contact information to be published in the Oilcan, which is published on the Internet).**

A single photo may be submitted for each listing.

Limit of three (3) listings from same Seller at any one time.

Seller shall email Oil Can Editor if item is sold so it can be removed from page.

All transactions are between the Buyer and the Seller.

Oilcan Editor reserves the right to edit listing if needed, and will notify Seller of edit prior to publication.

Picture	Description	Price	Name	Phone, or Email
	Walthers Ore Dock Kit, 933-3065ox.	\$75	Sam Parfitt	samparfitt@fuse.net
	Walthers 933-3070, Operating bascule bridge.	\$75	Sam Parfitt	samparfitt@fuse.net
	Walthers 933-3088/1050, Double track swing bridge with motor.	\$60	Sam Parfitt	samparfitt@fuse.net
	Atlas ALCo S-2 diesel, PRR, non-dynamic, Brunswick green, #5927. Retail: \$62.95	\$60	Jim MacKnight	jimmack6@hotmail.com
	Atlas EMD S-4 diesel, PRR, non-dynamic, Brunswick green, #8434. Retail: \$98.95	\$60	Jim MacKnight	jimmack6@hotmail.com
	Atlas EMD FP-7 diesel, PRR, dynamic, Brunswick green, #9837. Retail: \$99.95	\$60	Jim MacKnight	jimmack6@hotmail.com
	Atlas ALCo RS-3 diesel, WM, dynamic, black w/fireball, no number. Retail: \$109.95	\$75	Jim MacKnight	jimmack6@hotmail.com
	Branchline C&O 50' AAR steel boxcar, 15' dbl door riveted side, boxcar red, #28319. Retail: \$12.98	\$10	Jim MacKnight	jimmack6@hotmail.com
	Proto 2000 EMD GP18 diesel, SBD, dynamic, olive drab/yellow, #400. Retail: \$70.00	\$50	Jim MacKnight	jimmack6@hotmail.com
	Proto 2000 EMD SW9 diesel, C&O, non-dynamic, blue, #5093. Retail: \$75.00	\$50	Jim MacKnight	jimmack6@hotmail.com
	Stewart Baldwin AS-16 diesel, PRSL(Seashore Lines), black, #6013. Retail: \$99.98	\$60	Jim MacKnight	jimmack6@hotmail.com
	Stewart EMD F7A, phase I late diesel, WM speed lettering, black, no number. Retail: \$89.00	\$60	Jim MacKnight	jimmack6@hotmail.com
	Walthers FM H10-44 diesel switcher, CNW green/yellow, #1054. Retail: \$67.50	\$50	Jim MacKnight	jimmack6@hotmail.com



MODEL RAILROAD SPRING FLEA MARKET & TRADE SHOW

Sponsored by Cincinnati Division 7, NMRA, Inc.

www.cincy-div7.org/local-events

**Saturday, MARCH 7, 2026
10 AM to 3 PM**

LAKOTA WEST FRESHMAN CAMPUS

**5050 TYLERSVILLE ROAD
WEST CHESTER, OHIO 45069**

FEATURING LOCAL MODELERS & HOBBY DEALERS

\$7 Admission (Cash only, ATMs off-site) – Kids 12 and under and Scouts in uniform free with accompanying paying adult – No animals allowed, except service dogs

All SCALES of Model Railroad Items, Videos and more!

Tables \$25 (2.5 x 8 ft) – Reservations: rhord@fuse.net

***Don't miss this popular model train buy-sell event!
"A model railroad trade show"***

This event will be operated under all local, state and federal health guidelines in effect at that time. Masks are currently optional. If recommended, hand sanitizer will be available at multiple locations. Subject to cancellation due to events beyond our control. See <https://cincy-div7.org/local-events> for last-minute information or changes.

WHITE ELEPHANTS AT SPRING FLEA MARKET

White Elephants at the 2026 Spring Flea Market (Frank Koch) – I'm back again for any individual Division 7 members with items they wish to sell. Prepare an inventory showing your name, address, and telephone number and listing **each individual** item with a description and code so I can match it back to you and your **firm** asking price in **whole dollar amounts only**. **Each individual item must be clearly marked and priced as shown below.** If there is more than one of an item, list them separately. Put all your items in a bag or box and bring them to the show on Friday after 5pm or on Saturday before it starts. I'll log them in, sell them, reconcile sales with left-over material, and calculate how much you get back. You must pick up any unsold items right after the Show on Saturday, check your unsold items against the inventory, and we will settle either then or later.

The Division will keep 10% of actual sales. You must pick up your unsold material on Saturday right after the show closes. If you would like an electronic inventory form, send me an e-mail at fjkoch@hotmail.com with "elephant inventory" in the subject.

FJK – 12 \$10.00

Items are placed in the White Elephant Sale at your own risk. Neither Division 7 nor Frank Koch assumes any liability for any items damaged or stolen during the show, though we will provide due diligence for their safety. We will not accept items that are not prepared as indicated here. We cannot accept magazines. If you want to help out at some time during the Flea Market let Frank know. We reserve the right to refuse any material that we deem unsuitable.

I hope the 2025 Spring Flea Market will be our biggest White Elephant event yet. We will need some volunteers during the show to record sales and take payment from customers. You will not have to deal with any credit card sales as Frank will do those. If you can write fairly legibly, record the tag information on a sales slip, and differentiate between N, HO, and O scales, you will do fine!

Name:

Street Address:

City, State, Zip:

Telephone Number:

E-mail Address:

Initials	Item #	Short Description	Firm Price (\$)	Sold	Office
	1				
	2				
	3				
	4				
	5				
	6				
	7				
	8				
	9				
	10				
	11				
	12				
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	23				
	24				
	25				

2026 Spring Railroad Modelers Meet

Hosted by the Black Swamp Division (Div 1) of the North Central Region (NCR), NMRA

April 18, 2026 – Sylvania OH
with additional evening activities on Friday April 17th!

Doors Open 8:00AM with activities into the evening. See website for details!

Sylvania Senior Center, 7140 W Sylvania Ave, Sylvania, OH 43560

LUNCH AVAILABLE ON SITE!



Share Models, Techniques, and Ideas. Learn from Experts and Fellow Modelers
Attend Clinics and Layout Open Houses. Meet with Manufacturers and Historical Societies.

This event is open to ALL MODELERS - NMRA Membership is not required



SCHEDULED FEATURES AND ACTIVITIES

Model Showroom – Bring models (finished or in-progress) of locomotives, rolling stock, structures, dioramas, or scenery. All are Welcome!

The showroom is about sharing the hobby in all its many forms. Free lance or prototype are welcome.

Modeling Clinics – 6 clinics on 3 tracks to choose from on a mixture of subjects presented by modelers, historians, and industry experts.

Layouts and Displays - Small and modular displays will be available within the main venue.

Layout Tours - Tours of local layouts will be available during the afternoon and evening on Friday and Saturday.

Operating Sessions - Ops will be available on Friday or Saturday evening, advance registration is required!



All event activities (minus lunch) are included in one low price!
17 and under free, all individuals 17 and under must be accompanied by an adult

Visit our website for more information and event schedules
smm.ncrnmra.org





2027 Convention News

Convention Shirts



We're pleased to announce our convention shirts are now designed and ready for everyone to order, enjoy and wear to help promote our Convention. They are Royal Blue with our convention logo embroidered on the chest in stunning yellow lined graphics and silver text (see embroidery simulation below).

3 types of shirts are available – one long sleeve and two short sleeves. Within the types, there are variations for gender, pocket or not, and standard or tall lengths. The two short sleeve polos differ by fiber types and weight. The long sleeve is a nice button-down twill shirt, in a blended cotton/poly fabric, with a navy lining.

We've also worked with our shirt vendor to provide everyone with a user-friendly self-serve on-line ordering system. You simply go to the link provided, check the shirt types and variations you want, enter your size and quantities, and provide your name, address and credit card information. You also have your choice of 3 delivery options 1) UPS to your home (extra fare), 2) pickup at our Cincinnati Division 7 monthly meetings, or 3) pickup at the registration desk at our convention. See also the attached flyer providing photos, pricing and other info.

Here's the link. Its also on the flyer and our 2027 convention page on our website.

<https://cincinnati2027.itemorder.com/shop/home/>

John Burchnell
2027 Convention Chair
513-205-6045
johnburchnell@gmail.com



2027 MCR Convention Shirts

*Reg. sizes add

\$2 for 2XL
\$6 for 3XL
\$8 for 4XL
\$12 for 5XL
\$14 for 6XL



*Tall sizes add

\$2 for XLT
\$4 for 2XLT
\$6 for 3XLT
\$8 for 4XLT

All Shirts Royal Blue color. Pocketed shirts have pocket on left and embroidery on right. Otherwise, embroidery on left.

*add local & state tax + delivery cost if UPS selected

Delivery Options: 1) UPS shipping to you, 2) pickup at a Cinti Div 7 meeting, 3) pickup at Cincinnatian convention

Place your order(s) directly at:

<https://cincinnatian2027.itemorder.com/shop/home/>

Cornerstone Industrial Snag Proof Pique Polo (short sleeve)

6.5 oz, 100% Poly

Men's w/ Pocket
CS4020P \$37*

Men's w/o Pocket
CS4020 \$35*



Port Authority Long Sleeve Easy Care Shirt

4.5 oz, 45/55
cotton/poly
Navy Lining

Men's w/ Pocket
S608 \$42*

Women's w/o Pocket
L608 \$42*

Tall Men's w/ Pocket
TLS608 \$44*



Port Authority Silk Touch Polo (short sleeve)

5.0 oz, 35/65 cotton/poly

Men's w/ Pocket
K500P \$36*

Men's w/o Pocket
K500 \$33*

Women's w/o Pocket
L500 \$33*

Tall Men's w/ Pocket
TLK500P \$38*

Tall Men's w/o Pocket
TLK500 \$35*



Cincinnati Division 7 N.M.R.A. - 2026 Program Schedule

See website for most recent [printable landscape PDF](#). Dates, times and events can change. Most meetings begin at 2:00 PM

Month	Date	Location	Program / Speaker	Contests *	Layout Visits
Jan	Sun, Jan 11	West – Dunham Recreation Center (near Queen City Ave)	Annual Snackfest Celebration + Potluck Electronic Slide Show Part 2	Dec: Box, Stock, Reefer Car January: Any Pass. Train Car	Keith Corman
Feb	Sun, Feb 1 (note date)	North – Cincinnati North Holiday Inn (West Chester)	Bob Frankrone “Creating Operations on the Louisville Southern Lines”	Model & Photo: Caboose or any EOT device freight car	Sam Parfitt + Chris Shackleton
Mar	Sat, Mar 7 10 am – 3 pm	Annual Spring Flea Market Lakota West Freshman School	Dealer, Sales, Membership and Modeler Aid Booths	None	None
Apr	Sun, Apr 12	East – Mt. Carmel American Legion Hall	Chris Shackleton “Tips & Techniques Across Several Painting Methods”	Model & Photo: Hopper or Gondola Car	Mike Strasinger + Chuck Behymer
May	Sun, May 3 (note date)	Northeast – American Legion Hall Post 194, Mason, Ohio	Lou and Cheryl Sassi “Using Scenic Features to Focus Viewpoints”	Model & Photo: Steam Locomotive	Bob Bartizek + Mike Rottenberger
Jun	Thu, June 4 to Sun, June 7	MCR Convention – “Whistle-Stop – Dayton” – Dayton, OH	Clinics, Banquet, Yard Sale, Tours	Convention Contests	Convention Tours and Layouts
Jun	Sun, Jun 14 1 – 5 pm	Family Picnic/Social at Fernbank Park in Cinti, Ohio	Catered Social Event (Food, Games, Door Prizes) - must register by June 1	Team Trivia & Door Prizes	None
Jul	Sun, Jul 12	? South – Erlanger, Kentucky Kenton County Library	Sam Swanson MMR® “Module and Layout Construction with Foam”	Model & Photo: Non-Steam Locomotive	tbd
Jul	Mon, Jul 27 to Sun, Aug 2	NMRA Natl Convention - Scenic City Express – Chattanooga, TN	Clinics, Tours, Programs, Layouts, Banquet, National Train Show	Convention Contests	Convention Tours & Train Show Layouts
Aug	Sun, Aug 9	Central – Norwood Community Center in Norwood, Ohio	Ray Persing MMR® “Modeling on a Budget: Turning Trash into Treasures”	Model & Photo: Box, Stock or Refrigerator Car	tbd
Sep	Sun, Sep 13	North – Cincinnati Marriott North Hotel (Union Ctr Blvd)	Mike Tylick MMR® “Scratch Building Scituate Marine Supply”	Model: Open Load Freight Car Photo: Self Propelled Vehicle	tbd
Oct	Sun, Oct 4 (note date)	North – Cincinnati North Holiday Inn (West Chester)	Rick Kramer “Animations with Arduinos”	Model & Photo: Tank or Flat Car	tbd
Oct	Sat 10 & Sun 11 10 am to 4 pm	57th Annual Fall Train Show Lakota West High School	Cincinnati Model Train & Trade Show Sales, Layouts, Booths and Displays	None	Train Show Portable Layouts
Nov	Sun, Nov 8	Northeast – American Legion Hall Post 194, Mason, Ohio	Chuck Endreola “Dioramas – Why and How”	Model & Photo: Maintenance-of-Way (MOW) Equipment	tbd
Dec	Sun, Dec 13	East – Mt. Carmel American Legion Hall	Potluck Electronic Slides and Annual Snackfest Celebration	Model: Structure or Diorama Photo: Structure or Men at Work	tbd

Super Bowl Feb 8 Easter Apr 5 Mothers Day May 10 Fathers Day Jun 21 N.N.Ga.Conv. Sept 1-5 *contest details on website Rev. Jan 18, 2026 JBB

Next Meeting
2 PM Sunday February 1
 Holiday Inn
 5800 Muhlhauser Rd.
 West Chester 45069

Directions:

From I-75: Exit Union Center Blvd.
 Left to Muhlhauser Rd.
 Hotel is on your right.



Coming Down the Line

Cincinnati Division 7, MCR, NMRA
 2026 Schedule

NOTE: ALL REGULAR MEETINGS START AT 2 PM
 (Unless otherwise notified)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Program/Speaker</u>	<u>Layout Visits</u>	<u>Contest Topic</u>
2/1	Holiday Inn West Chester OH	Bob Frankrone <i>Creating Operations on the Louisville Southern Lines</i>	Sam Parfitt Chris Shackleton	<u>Models:</u> Caboose or EOT Device <u>Photos:</u> Caboose or EOT Device

3/7 NO Monthly Meeting! Annual Spring Flea Market at Lakota Freshman School
 SATURDAY March 7, 10 AM to 3 PM

4/12	Amer. Legion Hall Mt. Carmel OH	Chris Shackleton <i>Tips & Techniques Across Several Painting Methods</i>	Mike Strasinger Chuck Behymer	<u>Models:</u> Hopper or Gondola Car <u>Photos:</u> Hopper or Gondola Car
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Around the Division
 2026

2/19 7:15 pm Lebanon Modelers - Lebanon OH

Region / National
 2026

6/4-6/7, 2026, Mid-Central Region Convention,
Whistle Stop Dayton - Dayton, OH

7/27-8/2, 2026, NMRA National Convention,
Scenic City Express, - Chattanooga, TN

Modeling Problems? - Ask the Modelers Aid Committee

Bruce Knapp (513) 941-2713
 Sam Parfitt (513) 378-9133

Div. 7 Web Sitewww.cincy-div7.org
 MCR Web Sitewww.midcentral-region-nmra.org
 Mail Address Cincinnati Division 7, MCR
 P.O. Box 62501
 Cincinnati OH 45262-0501